The Microbial Rosetta Stone Database Project

Kumar Hari, Ph.D.

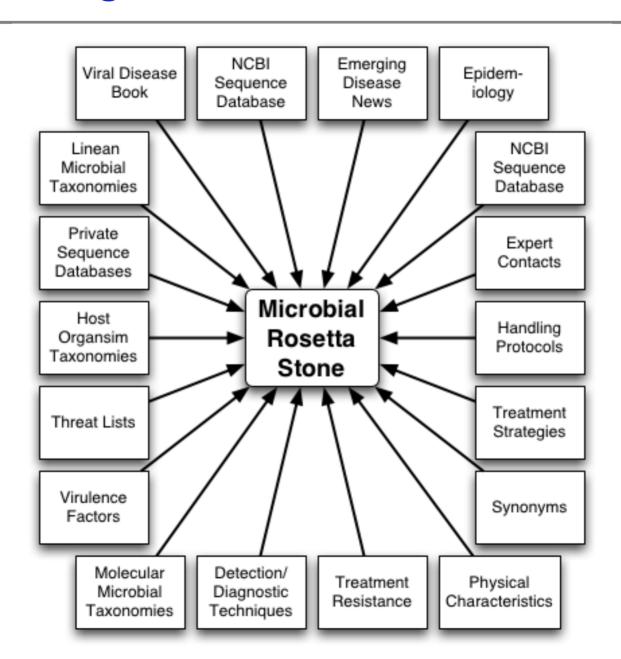
Ibis Therapeutics
A Division of Isis Pharmaceuticals
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Needs of law enforcement

- MRS project was motivated by the need to map the complete landscape of infectious agents
 - Initially funded by DARPA
- Additional support from the FBI for "microbial forensics"
- Main intent is to help define attribution in case of a bioterror event
 - Is the threat credible?
 - What is the threat agent?
 - Has it been engineered?
 - Who has access to it?

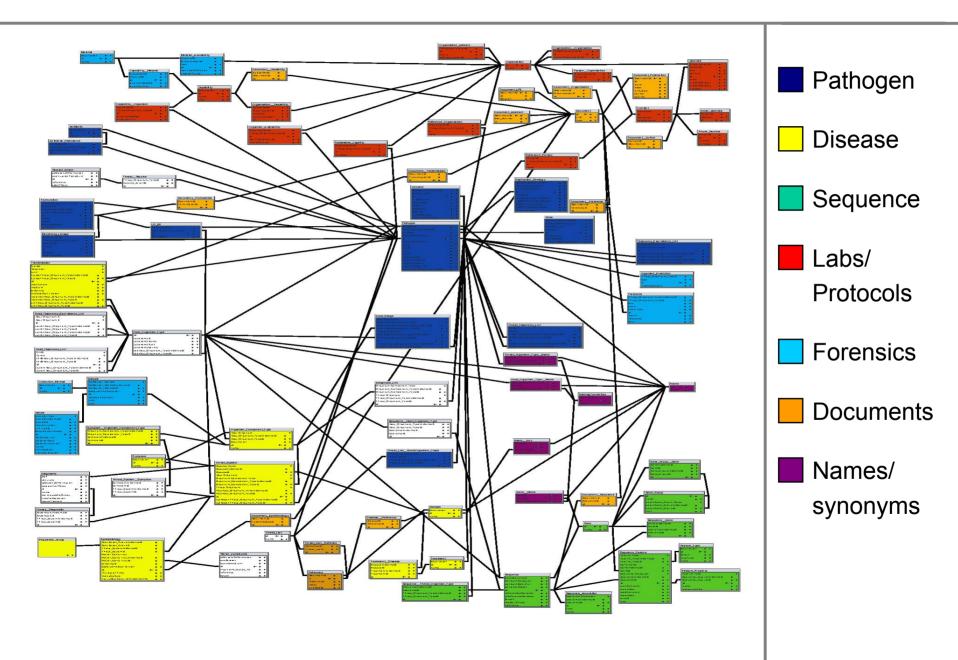


Pathogen Database Data Sources





MRS Database Schema

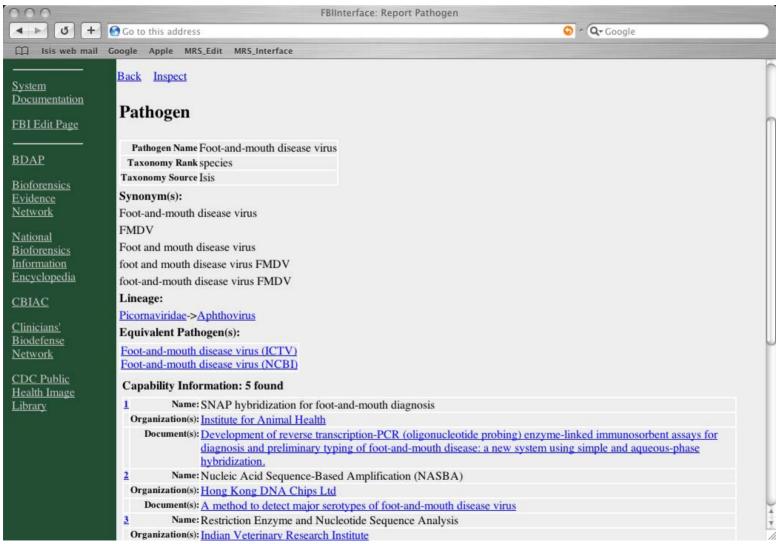


MRS web-based UI





Pathogen report





Disease report

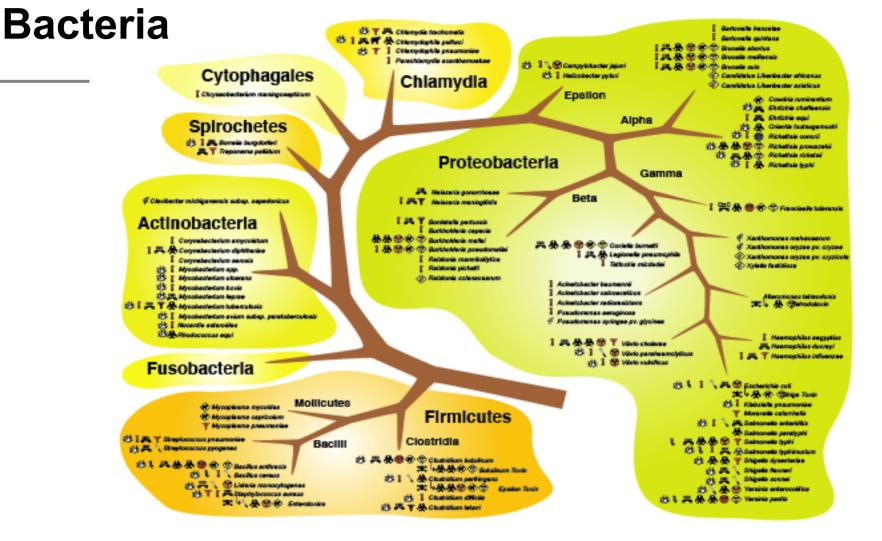




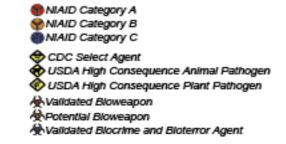
Data Conflicts Example: Threat Lists

- Government agencies create threat lists to focus diagnostic or therapeutic efforts
 - CDC, USDA, NIAID, DoD
- Lists are also created for specific purposes, for example:
 - Organisms that infect the human respiratory system, important in the clinic
- For detection, must link pathogens to potential biomarkers and other characteristics
 - Lists often use inconsistent naming conventions (e.g., disease names mixed with species names)
 - Breadth and specificity of biomarkers is constantly evolving; need to document links extensively to support their accuracy
- Database must provide unambiguous, fully linked, threat lists





Key to Icons



▼ Globally Important Human Pathogen

Important Plant Pathogen

CDC Reportable Agent

! Emerging Infectious Agent

\ Principal Foodborne Pathogen

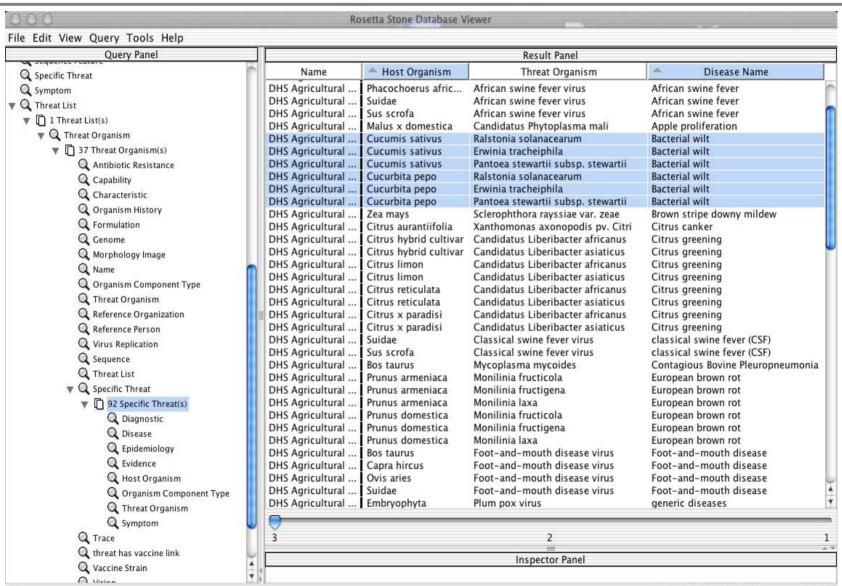
Toxin

Zoonotic

1 High Potential For Bioengineering



Data Mining Approach: List Based Query/Drill-Down





Defining Bacterial wilt

Threat list	Host organism	Threat organism	Disease
DHS Agricultural	Cucumis sativus	Ralstonia solanacearum	Bacterial wilt
DHS Agricultural	Cucumis sativus	Erwinia tracheiphila	Bacterial wilt
DHS Agricultural	Cucumis sativus	Pantoea stewartii subsp. stewartii	Bacterial wilt
DHS Agricultural	Cucurbita pepo	Ralstonia solanacearum	Bacterial wilt
DHS Agricultural	Cucurbita pepo	Erwinia tracheiphila	Bacterial wilt
DHS Agricultural	Cucurbita pepo	Pantoea stewartii subsp. stewartii	Bacterial wilt

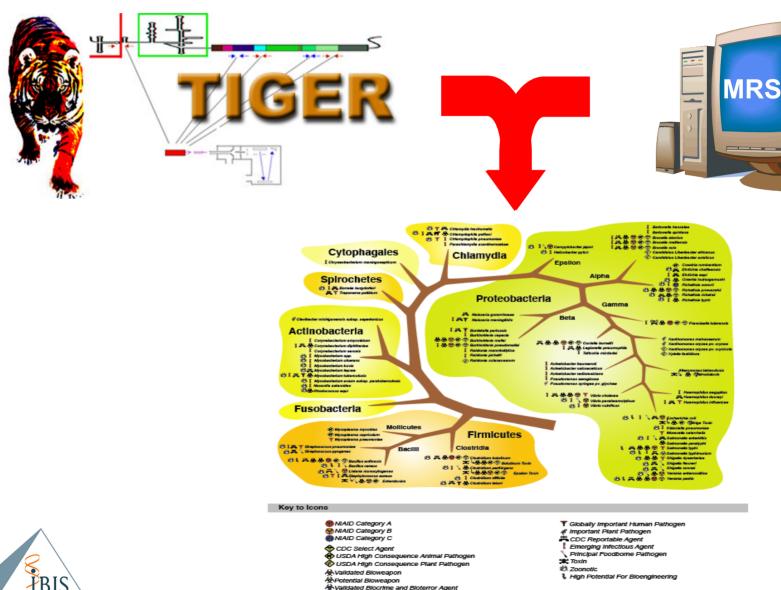


MRS System Attributes

- Standard relational database (MySQL)
- Automated data loading scripts for GenBank and taxonomy data from NCBI
- Automated data curation scripts for connecting different taxonomies for pathogens
- Automated keyword indexing for documents (publications, protocols, etc.)
- Multiple interfaces for data import and editing



Synergy with detection systems





Uses of MRS

- Interface with and development of other detection platforms
- Informatics tool for first responders and field agents
- Microbial forensics and strain tracking tool
- Educational reference for DHS and health care managers
- Other?



For more information, contact:

Kumar Hari khari@isisph.com

James Robertson jmrobertson@fbiacademy.edu